

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. It is a crime against democracy and the USA that they can show such propaganda before an election.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. I have to pay to receive these stations that come with a "package" and do not have the right to refuse. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter. It is also important that the honest truth be told and the watcher is clearly told about who made the program and why.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.